

December 22, 2004

News Release

LAFAYETTE MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO ONE COUNT OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

LAFAYETTE, La.—A Lafayette man pleaded guilty in federal court here today to one count of possession of child pornography.

Larry P. Mouton, 42, a resident of Breaux Bridge, was suspected of transmitting child pornography via the Internet. Agents of the Department of Homeland Security's U. S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) conducted the yearlong investigation into his illegal activities.

"This predator was involved in supporting an industry that exploits children in the worst and most unspeakable ways., "said Michael A. Holt, ICE Special Agent in Charge for New Orleans. "ICE will continue to work with U.S. Attorneys and local police departments to hold those who prey on the most vulnerable in society, accountable for their actions."

As part of the investigation, ICE agents completed a forensic examination of Mouton's computer. The analysis confirmed that Mouton was in possession of child pornography that had been downloaded from the Internet

Following a July 14 indictment, Mouton was arrested on September 22nd and charged with a violation of 18 USC 2252A(a)(5)(B), possession of child pornography. On December 20, Mouton's computer was forfeited under the criminal forfeiture statute.

Mouton was released until sentencing, which is scheduled for next March.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security